

SENATE BILL 477
By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section
49-5-204, relative to tuition discount for teachers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-204, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

49-5-204.

(a) Teachers employed full-time by a board of education in the state of Tennessee are eligible for enrollment in one (1) course per term at any state-supported college, university or technology center without paying tuition charges, maintenance fees, student activity fees or registration fees.

(b) Enrollment privileges may be limited or denied by the college, university or technology center on an individual basis according to space availability. Enrollment under this section is on a first-come, first-served basis. No tuition-paying student shall be denied enrollment in a course because of public school teacher enrollment pursuant to this section.

(c) Courses taken under this section are governed by the academic rules and regulations of the institution or school offering the course or courses.

(d) The provisions of this section do not diminish or affect in any way the rights provided to full-time employees of the state university and community college system and the University of Tennessee in § 49-7-116.

(e) The Tennessee higher education commission is hereby directed, authorized and empowered to promulgate and adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including rules and regulations for the allocation

of appropriations specifically appropriated for the implementation of the provisions of this section.

(f)

(1) The number of students permitted to attend classes beyond the limits established in this section or in the general appropriations act for any fiscal year shall be discounted from the effects of the higher education funding formula by the Tennessee higher education commission.

(2) Any reimbursements to the state-supported colleges, universities or area vocational-technical schools for the enrollments provided by this section shall be limited to those funds specifically appropriated for that purpose in the general appropriations act. Such reimbursement shall be limited to assessed charges and fees of enrollment.

(g) For purposes of this section, "teacher" means any teacher, principal, supervisor or other individual, required by law to hold a valid license of qualification for employment in the public schools of this state.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.